

**October 20, 2001**

**William S. Stokes**

Director, NICEATM (MD EC-17)

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

P.O. Box 12233

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Director Stokes:

As you have rightly requested public input concerning the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) controversial high production volume (HPV) chemical-testing program, please consider the following:

\*It is my contention that NIEHS should immediately put into use the new non-animal test methods. Research accepted by the scientific community proves conclusively that animals need not continue to suffer and die as a result of bureaucratic inertia.

\*Government agencies should use in vitro cell culture tests to COMPLETELY REPLACE the use of animals in lethal dose tests.

\*The tenets set forth in your October 1999 agreement with the animal protection community must be adhered to.

*Mary Bottorf*